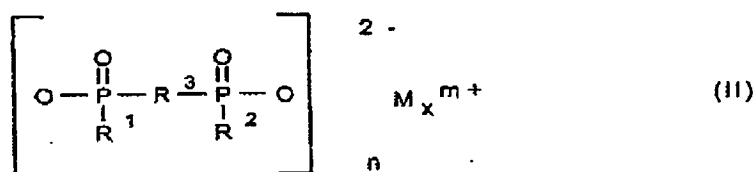
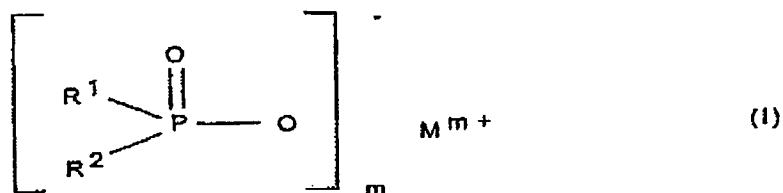


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Amendments to the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A flame-retardant thermoset composition comprising a thermoset resin, a flame retardant selected from the group consisting of a phosphinic salt of the formula (I) a diphosphinic salt of the formula (II) a polymer of formula (I), a polymer of formula (II) and mixtures thereof



where

R^1, R^2 are identical or different and are $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ -alkyl, linear or branched, or aryl;

R^3 is $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{10}$ -alkylene, linear or branched, $\text{C}_6\text{-C}_{10}$ -arylene, -alkylarylene or -arylalkylene;

M is Mg, Ca, Al, Sb, Sn, Ge, Ti, Zn, Fe, Zr, Ce, Bi, Sr, Mn, Li, Na, K or a protonated nitrogen base;

m is from 1 to 4;

n is from 1 to 4; and

x is from 1 to 4,

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and at least one synergistic component selected from the group consisting of ammonium polyphosphate, melamine polyphosphate, triethyl phosphate, triaryl phosphates, tetraphenyl resorcinoldiphosphate resorcinoldiphosphate, dimethyl methylphosphonate, dimethyl methylphosphonate polymer with phosphorus pentoxide, phosphonate ester, (5-ethyl-2-methyl-dioxaphosphorinan-5-yl)methyl methyl methanephosphonate, phosphoric acid, pyrophosphoric ester, alkylphosphonic acids, and oxalkylated derivatives of alkylphosphonic acids~~from the group consisting of organic and inorganic phosphorus compounds.~~

2. (Previously Presented) A flame-retardant thermoset composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein R^1 and R^2 are identical or different and are C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, linear or branched, or phenyl.
3. (Previously Presented) A flame-retardant thermoset composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein R^1 and R^2 are identical or different and are methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, n-butyl, tert-butyl, n-pentyl or phenyl.
4. (Previously Presented) A flame-retardant thermoset composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein R^3 is methylene, ethylene, n-propylene, isopropylene, n-butylene, tert-butylene, n-pentylene, n-octylene or n-dodecylene.
5. (Previously Presented) A flame-retardant thermoset composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein R^3 is phenylene or naphthylene.
6. (Previously Presented) A flame-retardant thermoset composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein R^3 is methylphenylene, ethylphenylene, tert-butylphenylene, methylnaphthylene, ethylnaphthylene or tert-butylnaphthylene.

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7. (Previously Presented) A flame-retardant thermoset composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein R³ is phenylmethylene, phenylethylene, phenylpropylene or phenylbutylene.

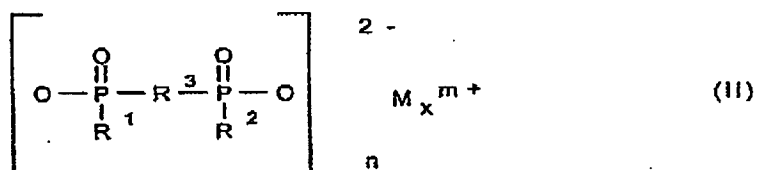
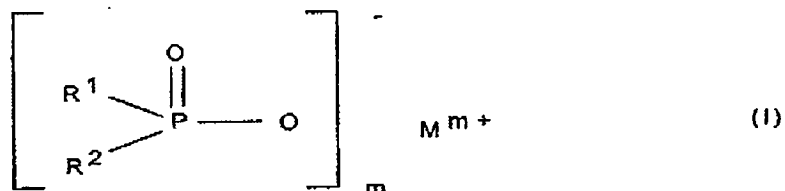
8. (Currently Amended) A flame-retardant thermoset composition as claimed in claim 1, comprising from 0.1 to 30 parts by weight of the flame retardant, and from 0.1 to 100 parts by weight of the at least one synergistic component, per 100 parts by weight of the thermoset composition, ~~wherein the at least one synergistic component is an organic phosphorus compound.~~

9. (Currently Amended) A flame-retardant thermoset composition as claimed in claim 1, comprising from 1 to 15 parts by weight of the flame retardant, and from 1 to 20 parts by weight of the at least one synergistic component, per 100 parts by weight of the thermoset composition, ~~wherein the at least one synergistic component is an organic phosphorus compound.~~

10. through 13 (Cancelled)

14. (Currently Amended) A flame-retardant thermoset composition A flame-retardant thermoset composition comprising a thermoset resin, a flame retardant selected from the group consisting of a phosphinic salt of the formula (I) a diphosphinic salt of the formula (II) a polymer of formula (I), a polymer of formula (II) and mixtures thereof

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where

R¹, R² are identical or different and are C₁-C₆-alkyl, linear or branched, or aryl;

R³ is C₁-C₁₀-alkylene, linear or branched, C₈-C₁₀-arylene, -alkylarylene or -arylalkylene;

M is Mg, Ca, Al, Sb, Sn, Ge, Ti, Zn, Fe, Zr, Ce, Bi, Sr, Mn, Li, Na, K or a protonated nitrogen base;

m is from 1 to 4;

n is from 1 to 4; and

x is from 1 to 4,

at least one synergistic component from the group consisting of organic and inorganic phosphorus compounds, and as claimed in claim 1, further comprising at least one carbodiimide.

15. (Currently Amended) A flame-retardant thermoset composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the thermoset composition is selected from the group consisting of

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~~a-A thermoset molding composition, a-coating or a-laminate made from thermoset resins comprising the flame-retardant thermoset composition as claimed in claim 1.~~

16. (Currently Amended) A flame-retardant thermoset composition as claimed in claim 15, wherein the thermoset ~~resins are~~ resin is an unsaturated polyester ~~resins resin~~ or epoxy ~~resins resin~~.

17. (Currently Amended) A process for preparing flame-retardant thermoset compositions as claimed in claim 1, comprising the steps of mixing ~~a-the~~ thermoset resin with the flame retardant and the at least one synergistic component to form a mixture, and wet-pressing the mixture at a pressure of from 3 to 10 bar and at a temperature of from 20 to 60°C.

18. (Currently Amended) A process for preparing flame-retardant thermoset compositions as claimed in claim 1 comprising the steps of mixing ~~a-the~~ thermoset resin with the flame retardant and the at least one synergistic component to form a mixture, and wet-pressing the mixture at a pressure of from 3 to 10 bar and at a temperature of from 80 to 150°C.

19. (Currently Amended) A process for preparing flame-retardant thermoset compositions as claimed in claim 1, comprising the steps of mixing ~~a-the~~ thermoset resin with the flame retardant and the at least one synergistic component to form a mixture, and processing the mixture at a pressure of from 50 to 150 bar and at a temperature of from 140 to 160°C to give preregs.

20. (Previously Presented) The process as claimed in claim 17, wherein said wet-pressing step further comprises cold-pressing.

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21. (Previously Presented) The process as claimed in claim 18, wherein the wet-pressing step further comprises warm or hot pressing.